

Appl. No. 09/655,091
Amdt. dated 11/9/06

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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested. Claims 1-4, 7-10 and 15-20 are now in the application and are subject to examination. Claims 5-6 and 11-14 have been cancelled. Claims 15-20 have been added.

The courtesy of Examiner Awai in discussing the above-identified application with undersigned counsel in a telephone conversation on November 8, 2006, is appreciated.

In that conversation, the Examiner indicated that the election of species requirement made in the Office action dated October 22, 2001, was being withdrawn. The Examiner, therefore, invited applicant to reintroduce the claims, which were previously cancelled.

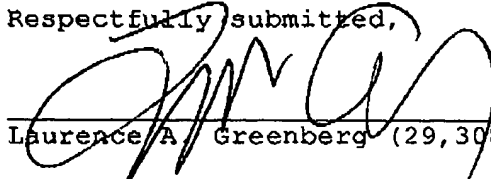
Accordingly, new claims 15-20 are provided in the instant amendment. These claims correspond to original claims 5, 6 and 11-14, respectively. In addition, withdrawn claims 9 and 10 have now been indicated as original claims.

In view of the foregoing, an action on the merits of claims 1-4, 7-10 and 15-20 is respectfully solicited.

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Please charge any fees that might be due with respect to
Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account Number 12-1099 of
Lerner Greenberg Stemer LLP.

Respectfully submitted,



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LAG/bb

November 9, 2006

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